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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,782	01/05/2001	Yoon Kean Wong	PALM-3532.US.P	3206

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EXAMINER

CHEN, CHONGSHAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,782

Applicant(s)

WONG, YOON KEAN

Examiner

Chongshan Chen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed on 26 May 2004. This action is non-final. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on 26 May 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

3. As per applicant's arguments regarding AddressPro does not show the claimed pop-down list, which is created (displayed) and accessed via the claimed list of sort fields in the group of sort instructions have been considered but are not persuasive. Applicant argues, according to the present claimed invention, to change a sort order, the user selects a sort field already in use and, in response to that selection, is provided with a pop-down list of potential replacement sort fields. AddressPro discloses two drop down lists: the upper one is for the main sort field, and the next one is for the secondary field (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list). The entries in the drop down lists include: Last name, First name, ... You may choose any of the entries in any of the fields ... While in the list view you can change the displayed phone number by selecting a field from the popup list in the titles row. The entry you choose for the phone displayed field is used to display the field you want instead of phone in the list, for example if you choose "title" than in the address list all the records appear with the titles instead of phone number. Clearly, the main sort field and a secondary sort field provide a pop-down list of potential replacement sort fields to replace a sort field in use.

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4. As per applicant's arguments regarding AddressPro does not disclose displaying a group of sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein said group of sort instruction comprises a plurality of sort fields for said first category type; ... receiving an indication from said user that selects a selected one of said sort field from said plurality of sort fields have been considered but are not persuasive. AddressPro teaches tapping the titles sorting popup trigger to get a list of pre-selected sorting schemes, choose one of the sorting schemes to apply it to the addresses database. Choose "Other ..." to get to the Sorting and preferences panel. The sorting and preferences panel is the claimed a group of sort instructions. In this panel there are 2 drop down lists: the upper one is for the main sort field, and the next one is for the secondary sort field ... You may choose any of the entries in any of the fields... You may now select different sorting schemes and different phone view fields for different categories, and than by changing categories you get different sorting and viewing possibilities. For example, I chose the "last, first" sorting scheme and "phone1" view field for my "personal" category and the "company, last" scheme with no phone view field for my "business" category. Clearly, the sort and preferences panel comprises a plurality of sort fields for a first category type ("personal" category or the "business" category), and receives sort instructions from the user. Therefore, the argument is not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AddressPro v4.0 ("AddressPro", Copyright January 2000 by ZingWare).

As per claim 1, AddressPro teaches in an electronic device having a database of records of different categories, a method of displaying information, said method comprising:

receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list, "You may now select different sorting schemes and different phone view fields for different categories, and then by changing categories you get different sorting and viewing possibilities ...");

indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a primary sort field for said first category type, said table associating each category type of said different categories with its own primary sort field, wherein a primary sort field for each category type is under user control and wherein said first category type has a primary sort field different from that of another category type (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list, "for example I chose the "last, first" sorting scheme and "phone1" view field for my "personal" category and the "company, last" scheme with no phone view field for my "business" category". The "personal" category is the claimed first category which is different from other categories/"business" category. Different category has different primary and secondary sort field. For the "personal" category, the primary sort field is "last" which is the Last name. These sort fields are under user control. "You may choose any of the entries in any of the fields");

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sorting records of said first category type into an order that is determined according to said primary sort field to produce a first sorted list (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list, “You may now select different sorting schemes and different phone view fields for different categories, and than by changing categories you get different sorting and viewing possibilities ...”, “In this panel there are 2 drop down lists: the upper one is for the main sort field, and the next one is for the secondary sort field ... the entry you choose for the main sort field is used to sort the list ...”);

displaying on display screen of said electronic device at least a portion of said first sorted list, said first sorted list displayed in said order determined according to said primary sort field for said first category type, wherein by selecting said primary sort field said user controls said order in which said records are displayed (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list);

displaying a group of sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein said group of sort instructions comprises a plurality of sort fields for said first category type (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list);

receiving an indication from said user that selects a selected one of said fields from said plurality of sort fields (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list, “You may choose any of the entries in any of the fields ... Tapping the ‘Done’ button causes the list to be resorted and redisplayed according to the fields you chose ...”);

displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said selected one of said sort fields, wherein said user can replace said selected one of said sort fields with a sort field selected from said pop-down list (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display

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and sort order of the address list, "In this panel there are 2 drop down lists ... You may choose any of the entries in any of the fields").

AddressPro does not explicitly disclose the first sorted list according to the primary sort field is displayed on left-hand side of display as view by said user. However, it is well known in the art that the list sorted by the primary sort field is displayed on the left-hand side of display because the user reads from left to right. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to display the list sorted by the primary sort field on the left-hand side of display in the system of AddressPro. This display order reveals the priority of sort order. The user will know the left-hand side is the primary sort order because the user reads from left to right.

As per claim 2, AddressPro teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, and further teaches receiving another indication from said user that selects a second category type of said different category types; indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a primary sort field for said second category type; sorting records of said second category type into an order that is determined by said primary sort field for said second category type to produce a second sorted list; and displaying on said display screen at least a portion of said second sorted list, said second sorted list displayed in said order determined according to said primary sort field for said second category type (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2, Changing the display and sort order of the address list).

As per claim 3, AddressPro teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, and further teaches said electronic device is a palm-sized computer system (AddressPro, 3. System Requirement).

As per claim 4, AddressPro teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, except for explicitly disclosing said electronic device is a wireless telephone. However, AddressPro teaches said electronic device is a palm computer system. Palm computer system and wireless telephone are both mobile electronic device. Both systems store and organize contact and address data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the display and sort method of AddressPro in a wireless telephone. The display and sort method of AddressPro can display and sort different categories with different sort order. This helps the wireless telephone user to better organize data and allow the user to easily find information.

Regarding to claim 5, AddressPro teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, and further teaches said database is a database of contact information comprising records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number (AddressPro, 1. Overview, 6.2 Changing the display and sort order of the address list).

As per claim 7, AddressPro teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, and further teaches user depressing a designated button on said electronic device (AddressPro, 6.2 Changing the display and sort order of the address list).

Claims 8-12 and 15-19 are rejected on grounds corresponding to the reasons given above for claims 1-5.

Claims 14 and 21 are rejected on grounds corresponding to the reasons given above for claim 7.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chongshan Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-8319.

As of October 21, 2004, new number should be (571) 272-4031. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M..


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790.

As of October 21, 2004, new number should be (571) 272-4107.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 20, 2004


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER